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Hand-Picking Over

Another step toward proportional representation of delegates to the Republican National Convention has finally been taken. Thanks largely to the efforts of R. B. Howell, national committeeman from Nebraska, assisted by other members of the national committee, new rules for the selection of delegates to the convention have been adopted.

These are, in brief, that all states shall have at least four delegates-at-large. But if its electoral vote was cast for Harding in 1920 a state will have two more, making a total of six delegates-at-large. Besides this every Congressional district will have a delegate if the following conditions are met:

1. If the district has a bona fide organization.

2. If it has run a candidate for Congress at the election last preceding the convention.

3. If it has cast a minimum Republican vote of 2,500.

If all these conditions exist and the vote exceeds 10,000 the district shall have two delegates.

In the case of states having Congressmen-at-large there shall be, besides the delegates-at-large, two delegates for each Congressman.

The general effect of these new rules will be to distribute representation more nearly in accordance with the distribution of the strength of the Republican party. The new provision for two extra delegates-at-large applies only to those states that went for Harding and therefore increases only Republican strongholds. By placing a minimum voting requirement in Congressional districts a number of states have their representation cut.

A comparison of the delegate allotments of 1912, 1920 and 1924 (estimated) follows:

	1912	1920	1924
Alabama	24	14	14
Arkansas	18	13	14
Florida	12	8	10
Georgia	28	17	10
Louisiana	20	12	9
Mississippi	20	12	4
North Carolina	24	22	12
South Carolina	18	11	4
Tennessee	24	23	24
Texas	40	23	21
Virginia	24	15	16

Had the minimum vote been placed at 10,000, or even 7,500, it would have been possible to effect an even more complete reform. But the present move is in the direction of proportional representation, and in so far as it has broken the old tradition that each district was entitled to representation regardless of votes cast it is a notable step forward. It is true that the cuts total only twenty-three delegates, but the biggest reductions come in two states where the Republican party has long been practically negligible, South Carolina and Mississippi.

Moreover, through the allotment of extra delegates as a reward of merit to Republican states and by giving some districts three delegates, seventy-six additional delegates will be given, it is estimated, to the party where it genuinely exists. Taking the reductions and increases together, it is now improbable that a nomination will ever again be made by non-representative delegates. The lesson of 1912 has not been forgotten.

It has taken many years to effect this great reform, but at last there is reason for thinking it has practically been achieved.

William Hester

Few men have been so long associated with a newspaper as William Hester was with The Brooklyn Eagle, and few have so long exercised proprietary control over a great journal. Few, also, we may add, have been at once so masterful and so unobtrusive in their direction of such an institution.

He began work on The Eagle when it was less than a dozen years old and was little more than a country newspaper, for Brooklyn was then not nearly one-tenth its present size. He saw it grow to a great metropolitan journal, of national influence and international repute; and of that growth he was not merely a witness, but a part, and for much more than half of the nearly threescore years and ten he was its dominant factor.

Such a career might well be satisfying to any man, as it was to him. If he avoided rather than sought personal publicity and refused the offices which he might have filled, he none the less made deep and lasting his impress upon the community which he served. His enduring memorial is in The Eagle and the unique influence which it has exerted for many years in one of the most noteworthy journalistic constituencies of the nation.

The Sims Furor

The bad taste and extravagance of the remarks attributed to Admiral Sims are scarcely a matter for argument. The speech was of such a character that it were better not made. A distinguished American officer traveling abroad is under obligation to temper his discourse. Doubtless the Admiral will be duly censured. His indiscretion is strikingly similar to that of Admiral Coghlan a few years ago when that gallant sailor publicly recited the doggerel "Me und Gott," that the Kaiser's friends did not enjoy.

But that Admiral Sims in his overblazing candor hit somewhere near the truth in his attack on the Sinn Féin politicians of America is plain from the outcries that are heard. It was time for some one to say out loud that Sinn Féin hyphenism is un-American and that weak-kneed politicians do themselves no credit when they cater to it.

America protested, and properly protested, when an element in England helped this nation's enemies in our Civil War. It is just as objectionable now for an element in this country to foment civil war in another nation and to furnish funds to support murder gangs which hit in the dark and are subjecting Ireland to the horrors of guerrilla warfare. It is plain that fear of loss of possible votes has colored the attitude of our American politicians. Why deny it? For Daniel Cohalan and others like him suddenly to profess great concern about propriety and to pretend to be shocked by an indiscretion is sheer hypocrisy.

When Admiral Sims was in charge of the American naval station at Queenstown his men had unfortunate experiences with Sinn Féinism. It was necessary to forbid American sailors going to Cork. He thus had first-hand knowledge on which side in the World War were the Sinn Féiners—knew why they were enraged at America. So the Admiral may be pardoned for not having complete patience with Sinn Féin Americans.

It is scarcely necessary to point out that in condemning Sinn Féin as it is practiced Admiral Sims did not attack the great body of men of Irish descent in this country. These are Americans first and may point with pride to a record of unbroken loyalty. But the professional Sinn Féiner is of another quality and cares so little for America that he would embroil us, even to the extent of bringing on war, in a complicated controversy which, as President Harding has declared, does not concern us.

"Diff'rent"

The plea of Greenwich Village seems deserving of sober thought. In its passionate desire for justice we can forgive some extremities of language in its manifesto. But to declare itself the most important "creative center" of the country is plainly to ignore Detroit and Henry Ford; to state that the achievements of its inhabitants "constitute in large measure the nation's literary and artistic culture" is a sweeping declaration that will cause the Chicago of Carl Sandburg to shudder; to refer to its undesirable hangers-on as inevitable and negligible is to excite the envy of Boston and Philadelphia. Nevertheless, the self-determinism of Greenwich Village should not be ignored. There is undoubtedly genius in localities as well as in people.

Greenwich Village, if you know what we mean, wishes to be let alone and to grow up in its own way. It wishes to be the guardian of its own eccentricities. If Mr. Edison can get up in the night and walk around and do as he pleases without being arrested, why not let Greenwich Village work out its ideas in its own way?

Before coming to a decision about this momentous question, however, it seems only fair to gather some statistics. Mr. Mencken has done this for Chicago, giving a tabulation of geniuses with the precision of a government expert and showing by tables of comparison why it is the real literary center of America. Is it too much to ask just what Greenwich Village has actually produced to-day, whether it be works of art, literary masterpieces, horn glasses, whiskers or Freudian nightmares?

On the whole, the Village, in its protest against extinction, should not so much stress achievements as that it is different and hence interesting. An even, uniform texture is right enough for a veal loaf or bologna, but most of us would have, as in bacon, streaks of fat and lean. And the real reason one may suspect why the Village is being bedeviled is not solicitude about morality, but anger over the high crime and misdemeanor of departing from America's minted type. As conventionality fills some bosoms with rage, so unconventionality frenzies others.

Colonel Galbraith

In the death of Colonel Galbraith the American Legion has not only lost a beloved chief, but wounded veterans their best friend and keenest champion. From the moment he took command and declared that it was his intention to devote himself to the wounded men until they had been cared for properly, up to the day of his death, he carried on a vigorous, never ceasing struggle in their behalf.

Believing in action, he was impatient of the delays and restraints and never hesitated to take short cuts and use plain speaking to break up bureaucratic opposition. In fighting the cause of the wounded before Congress he hammered and hit with a directness and force that broke down obstructions. To him the Sweet bill, providing for the proper care and relief of the disabled veterans, is largely due.

But Colonel Galbraith's services went even beyond this. He was one of the first to see the re-rise of the head of hyphenism last year, and smote it. He tore its mask away, as Von Mach can testify.

As a veteran of the war Colonel Galbraith is entitled to burial in the National Cemetery at Arlington. This is a fitting resting ground. In fact, it is to be hoped that the government will now reserve a plot of ground at Arlington dedicated to the commanders of the American Legion. They are the servants of a great cause, national figures heading a great body of war veterans. What more appropriate than to create such a final resting place, where Colonel Galbraith would be the first to lie?

Free Speech in the Navy

The decision of Secretary Denby abolishing the censorship of the writings and utterances of naval officers will not only be welcomed by the service, but is much in the public's interest. This form of autocracy has been particularly tyrannical during the last eight years. The "publicity" office at the Navy Department was an agency of the Secretary of the Navy and of those subservient to him and his policies, however destructive they might be of naval progress and efficiency. It stifled intelligence, promoted servility and rewarded mediocrity.

This system, depended upon to keep the truth from the people, was largely responsible for our complete naval unreadiness for the World War, as evidenced by Mr. Daniels's refusal to permit Admiral Fiske to address the Commercial Club of Chicago on preparedness in 1915. The Admiral was told: "You cannot say that two and two make four"!

This smothering policy was inconsistent with a republican form of government. No monarchy practised it so despotically. In England naval officers are given complete freedom of speech. The English people, and the government as well, encourage criticism of naval policy because it is deemed in the interest of the efficiency of the British fleet.

Censorship in our navy has bolstered up a political, conservative, slow-going bureaucracy. Comparatively young officers have at times assumed to censor the writings of their seniors, who may have taught them their A B C's! Taking advantage of a little temporary authority and screened behind the letter-head of the Navy Department, they have been known to be impertinent and disrespectful toward officers of superior experience and ability who might venture to differ from a bureau or a board! Officers of ability and long service have hesitated to subject themselves to the humiliation of such treatment. And the intelligent discussion of naval policy is prevented.

The Secretary of the Navy no doubt realizes that an officer who says or does anything foolish injures nobody but himself. Officers will be careful not to discuss confidential subjects or to embarrass our foreign relations. There are certain reasonable restrictions which can be easily defined by regulations.

Free speech in the navy being once more permitted, the highest intelligence, after having been throttled for eight years, may be expected to assert itself.

June Bridegrooms

This year's crop of June bridegrooms is not necessarily of such hardy fiber as last year's. When a dollar will buy a pound of butter and a dozen eggs and still leave a few pennies for postage to tell mother-in-law what a gorgeous girl she reared the conjugally happy man is less the financially depressed one.

The worst enemy of the young couple is the hypocrisy of "keeping up a front." Our young people are not content to start at the bottom and climb, but must have a complete outfit; so they buy, with their small means, cheap stuff that quickly loses its attractions and falls to pieces. They must have cream instead of milk and dine out and must attend the movies and keep up to date in their clothes. The latest jazz records must be brought home regularly by the maturing bridegroom if he is to drive the monster of despair away from his frail-hearted, ear-bobbed consort. In other words, he feels obliged to show her the same good time she enjoyed when he won the prize from a field of "entertainers." Dearie must have something to talk about in her circle of girl friends.

The change in standards, which is general outside the philosophic classes, may be laid to father and mother. They have read a dangerous little and have decided their children should have all the fun they missed, and the way to have fun is to pair pleasure lovers. Discipline is an archaic thing and self-denial is a vice in an era wherein self-expression is the supreme duty.

Nevertheless the 1921 June bridegroom is in a better position than the 1920 model. Outside of rent necessaries cost less, allowing him more money for the inconsequentials that he and Edythe must have. Along about 1935, when little Meredith and Hypatia are ten and twelve, respectively, father and mother will doubtless jaw at each other for their earlier profligacy and determine heatedly that Meredith and Hypatia shan't be brought up such fools. Thus the generations pursue their orbital careers and opinion swings through its ellipse.

Incredibly Mean

Wherever the spotlight of the Meyer committee is turned are revealed the vermin scuttling away.

That the peddlers and pushcart men, who provide a market for the thrifty poor, have been compelled to give up $50,000 to $100,000 a year is not matter for surprise. Such things always happen when Tammany is in power. Incredibly mean is it to prey on the trading itinerants of the street, but Tammany is always mean.

Tammany presents itself as the poor man's organization. Such it never has been and never can be. Its whole theory is to rifle the pockets of the poor. There are more of them and they are the least able to protest. No gallant bandit is Tammany, taking from plenty and distributing to want. Its leaders become rich and its underlings imitate their superiors.

The Surplus Immigrants

Italian Arrivals to Whom Restriction Law Should Not Apply

To the Editor of the Tribune.

Sir: Nearly 2,000 Italians who arrived in America in excess of the quota permitted for June under the new immigration law are likely to be sent back to Italy. The question arises whether such a step would be fair and whether it would be in keeping with the spirit of the law under which it is proposed to be taken.

The immigration bill was signed by the President on May 19. Information of this fact reached New York on May 20. Cables reported it to Italy May 21 or 22. Meanwhile, up to May 22 several steamers had already sailed from Italy, while that country was either in complete ignorance of the new law or lacked detailed information as to the carrying out of its provisions. These are the steamers which have now arrived in American ports, and it is proposed that their human freight be turned back, regardless of the misery that would follow.

The immigrants on board these steamers have legal passports issued by their governments and duly visèd by the American consuls in Italy. They sold their belongings, severed their business ties and boarded the steamers for America in perfect good faith, unaware of any obstacle in the way of their landing.

The new immigration restriction law was to take effect fifteen days after having been signed, but considering that it takes about two weeks for a steamer to make the trip from Italy to America, the law as now interpreted by the authorities has practically become operative immediately. Evidently it was the intention of the lawmakers to give both the steamship companies and the prospective immigrants two weeks' notice so as to accommodate themselves to changed conditions.

Means ought to be found, therefore, to relieve the present situation, and if in the opinion of the proper authorities no other way is left open Congress should immediately enact a remedial measure. No fear need be entertained that an exemption applying only to ships having sailed from European ports within a few days after the President signed the immigration act would create a precedent.

It is reported by cable that the Dante Alighieri sailed from Italy with only sixty passengers, all Americans, and the Canada with 150 passengers, also all Americans. Two other ships, the Re d'Italia and the America, have canceled their sailings.

American consuls will henceforth issue no visas beyond the permissible quota. We believe that this is a matter involving American fair play. These two thousand would-be Americans should get a square deal from America and not be made to suffer because we passed a new law while they were on their way to the land of hope.

N. BEHAR

Managing Director, National Liberal Immigration League.

New York, June 8, 1921.

Bluffers

(From The Cincinnati Enquirer)

There are times when we are led to suspect crises are the biggest bluffers in the world. We see one coming and everybody gets scared stiff, but when we pass it we find it was about as tame as a baby lamb.

The Conning Tower

On the Mutability of Temperament

[Two down on Gilbert]

When I lived in New York as a very young man,
Says I to myself, says I—
"I'll live somewhere else if I possibly can!"
Says I to myself, says I;
"I don't like the subway, I don't like the L,
I don't like their rattle and battle and yell,
And I don't like the rush and the crush and the smell,"
Says I to myself, says I.

So I went to Chicago and worked for The Post
And says I to myself, says I,
"Of all towns I've been in I like this the most,"
Says I to myself, says I.
"It hasn't a subway—and as for the L,
There's not so much rattle and battle and yell;
And you don't mind the Yards when you're used to the smell,"
Says I to myself, says I.

So I stayed there four years with no yearning to roam,
Then says I to myself, says I,
"I really *should* visit the folks back at home,
(Says I to myself, says I),
And now that I'm here where my collar stays sleek,
And soft coal doesn't smudge up my ear, nose, and cheek,
Well, give me old Chi any day in the week!"
Says I to myself, says I.

BARON IRELAND.

"So," writes Pro Bono Columnæ, "you remember nothing funny other than Will Rogers and Fannie Brice in the Midnight Frolics! How about Savoy and Brennan? And Bert Williams? And Frances White? And Eddie Cantor?" We had forgotten Bert Williams. But we can't laugh at Savoy and Brennan. And in Frances White and Eddie Cantor we never have been able to see anything but industriousness and energy.

De Senectute

Sir: I am interested in the idea for a League to Write Your Own Obituary. But it beats the dickens how time changes your ideas of what a really proper obituary ought to be. For instance, two years ago my idea of the only possible obituary headline for my own use was "Beautiful Young Girl, Broken-hearted, Dies by Her Own Hand."

But now see (as my dear Harriette says) here I am, the broken heart neatly mended, in perfect running order, hitting on all six, better than new, and to-day my idea of a really good obituary notice would be "Jolly Old Lady, 86, Passes Peacefully Away With Smile on Face."

BELLE B. T.

Speaking of writing one's own obit, we barely avoided death by a too rapidly driven wagon yesterday. The sign on the wagon read: "Keep Smiling with Roy K. Moulton. A Daily Column of Cheer in The Evening Mail."

O D., Where Is Thy S.?

Jolly news for the reading mob again: Old Doc Baer has got a job again!

Attempts to tie the Native Son are hopeless. Here is a new Los Angeles magazine devoted to the publication of poetry—The Lyric West. It is published at the office of the Lyric West Publishing Co., and if you doubt that the poems are good, know that the magazine, take it from the advertisement, is published at "the Biggest Place of Its Size in California."

Speaking of the lyric muse, nowhere is she more deeply revered than in Glens Falls, where H. C. Allen, serving aboard the U. S. S. Eagle No. 46, lives. Mr. Allen has written an eight stanza poem, of which we quote No. 5:

Fifty-nine was recently commissioned
And handed over to the Naval Militia,
Taken to lower harbor by a navy tug
And there she is laying with her hook in the mud.

June in Greenwich

Laurels are blooming in Greenwich
And bob-o-links chantent au matin;
But you can't get a place to sit or to stand,
In any old train to Manhattan.

J. Q.

It's enough to confuse even so methodical a person as ourself. Not only is this Milk Week, but also it is Zane Grey Week. The only thing to do is to quaff Mr. Grey's health in a beaker of—well, say Grade C Milk.

A gifted but modest author of our acquaintance suggests that next week be Extra Heavy Cream Week and Henry Sydnor Harrison Week.

Gaudeamus Igitur

[From the Church Calendar of Old Center Church, New Haven, Conn.]

After rendering most worthy service this winter, the chorus choir will take its vacation, and the praise will be led by the quartette.

Of course, the appointment of Mr. Albert D. Lasker as Chairman of the Shipping Board will be unsatisfactory to some who think a nautical man should have been chosen. Our choice, based on a memory of the Senate inquiry into the sinking of the Titanic, would have been for Senator William Alden Smith.

Shall You Then Move 'Em to Mahomet?

Sir: I should like to join you and Professor Broun in your Arcade of Commerce, with my to-be-formed contracting company, which will display the slogan "Molehills Made Into Mountains."

LUI.

"Possibly," writes Babe Ruth, "Judge House does not know the thrill of stepping on the throttle on an open highway." Possibly not. But possibly the infant knows by this time that neither Broadway at Ninety-seventh Street nor Riverside Drive at 104th Street is precisely an open highway.

Desirable to collectors would be a bat used by Babe Ruth or a glove used by Jack Dempsey, but even more, probably, would be the pens and pencils that these scrivening gentlemen write their stuff for Mr. Hearst with.

F. P. A.

MIGHT TRY PUTTING ON A SMALLER HOOK

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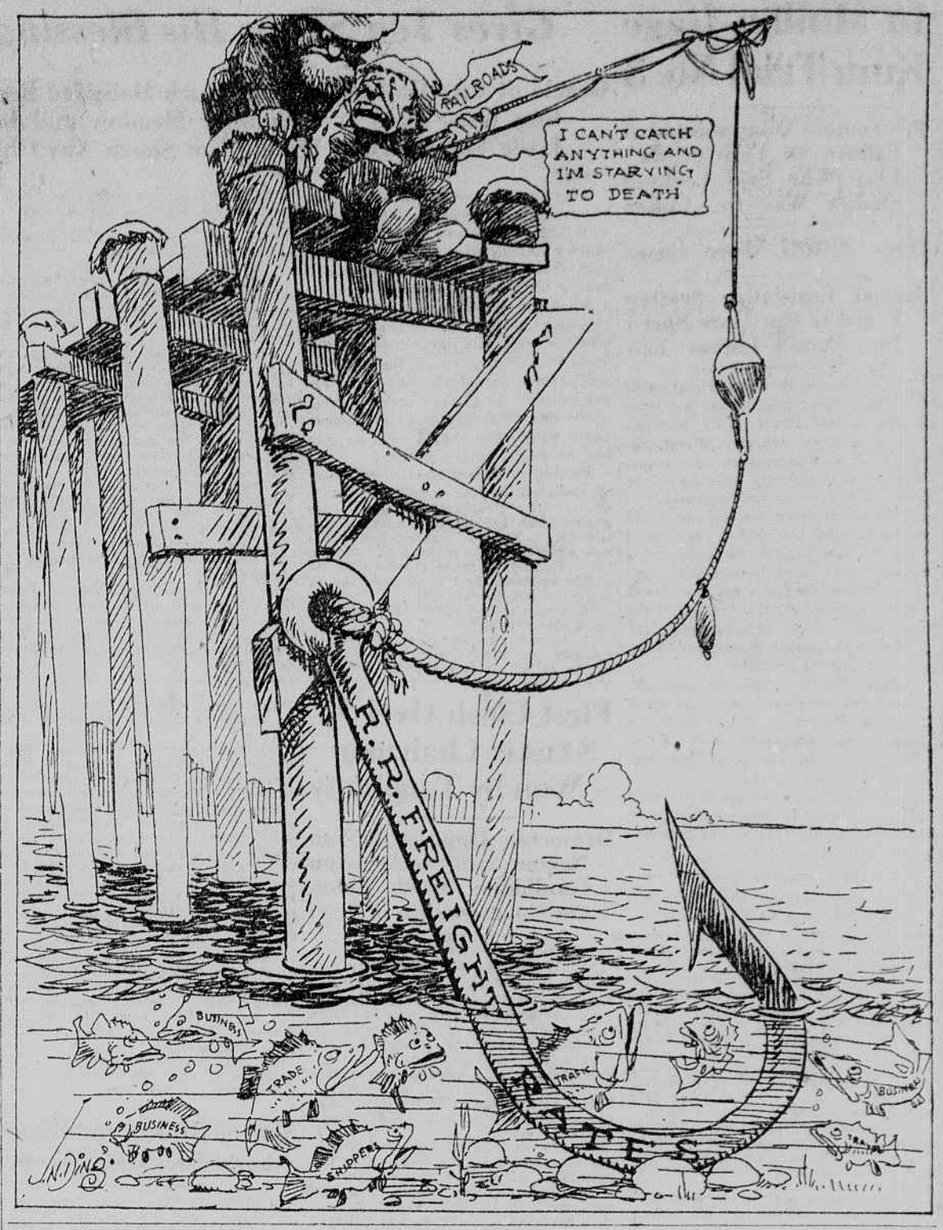

The Wet Parade

Anti-Saloon Leaguer Says 'Twill Be Bully for Prohibition

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: I notice that a good deal is said about the big anti-prohibition parade that is to take place on the Fourth of July.

Those who favor it believe that it is the beginning of the repeal of the Volstead law, of all state prohibition laws, and finally of the Eighteenth Amendment. If those who are promoting this parade had been students of the dry movement throughout the United States they would know that anti-dry demonstrations by way of parades have always resulted in an increase of dry sentiment and dry votes.

The reason for this is very clearly stated by Richard Croker in this morning's paper, where he says: "Wets will march in a dry parade, but a lot of wets will refuse to march in the wet parade because they don't like the publicity it gives them." In other and plainer words, because they are ashamed of their company.

Suppose they do have one, two, three or even five hundred thousand in their parade (for if they should have one hundred thousand they will claim five hundred thousand), that is only a drop in the bucket in a nation like the United States. Chicago has tried this anti-dry parade business, with the result that the dry vote always increases at the next election.

We are reminded of an experience in a wet and dry fight in a down-state city in Illinois years ago. The wets had licked us twice and the third round was on. Things were going bad for the wets, and the old brewer who was financing the wets and managing their campaign became very downhearted because it was evidently going to be "three times and out." His friends gathered at headquarters one night and tried to cheer him up with an announcement that they were going to have a great wet parade. The old gentleman threw his hands over his head and exclaimed: "My ——! If the people ever see you fellows all together in one bunch that will be the end of the liquor traffic in this community!"

Judge Landis said in the United States court in Chicago the other day: "More than 90 per cent of the violators of the liquor law that come before me are unnaturalized foreigners." This crowd will all be there. Let them get together and show themselves, and those who have been hesitating as to whether prohibition is a good thing or not will hesitate no longer. The only people they can possibly fool will be some old wet politicians who have become panicky and, believing that a great reaction has set in, will take a head-on dive into the river of political oblivion.

Let the wets parade; it's a bully good thing, Richard Croker to the contrary notwithstanding.

JAMES K. SHIELDS,
State Superintendent Anti-Saloon League of New Jersey.
Newark, N. J., June 8, 1921.

California's Public Defenders

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: The movement to establish the office of public defender to represent indigent accused persons has received fresh impetus by the recent passage of a state-wide public defender bill by the California Legislature. The bill provides for the election of a public defender in each county and city of California, after the approval of the local board of supervisors. This law will shortly be effective in nine counties in California, which includes all the big centers of population in that state.

It is important to note that this state-wide legislation was passed after eight years' successful demonstration of the efficiency and economy of the office of public defender in Los Angeles, and that there was a very insistent demand by the principal civic organizations in San Francisco for the enactment of the new law.

A vigorous effort will be made at the next session of the New York Legislature to establish the office of public defender in various counties of this state, and there is reason to believe that the proposed bill will receive the support of numerous civic bodies.

MAYER C. GOLDMAN.

New York, June 9, 1921.

Life Inexhaustible

Rock Micro-Organisms That Have Retained Vitality for Ages

(From Le Figaro)

The life of minerals and rocks has been the subject of recent researches by Dr. Galippe, the curious results of which are reported to the French Academy of Sciences by M. Henneguy.

M. Galippe and his collaborator, Dr. Soufflaud, have just proved by numerous and convincing experiments that matter, which is commonly considered lifeless, is on the contrary a reservoir of inexhaustible life. They have studied experimentally meteorites, minerals, rocks such as quartz and granite, products such as basalt, volcanic lava and ashes, and have invariably discovered organic beings susceptible to revivification; that is to say, to being cultivated and multiplied. Many of these rocks may have been heated to temperatures from 200 to 2,000 degrees Centigrade or from 392 to 3,920 Fahrenheit.

At the very beginning of the formation of the terrestrial crust the waters were peopled with micro-organisms, and these, drawn into and mingled with the sediments, owing to enormous pressures, gaseous or liquid infiltrations, became the actual, generally crystallized rocks.

The micro-organisms have gone through these evolutions without losing their aptitude to revivification, and have retained their latent life. Owing to the loss of water and organic matter they were apparently transformed into minerals, but they can be perceived with the microscope and are generally endowed with motion.

When through appropriate treatment these organisms are demineralized and the water and organic matter which they have lost are given back to them they again resume active life and multiply.

MM. Galippe and Soufflaud conclude that if all creatures, commonly regarded as living beings, should be destroyed life could be born again through these organisms, which are indestructible and which would begin to play again the part they played at the origin of the world.

A Severe Test

(From The Philadelphia Evening Public Ledger)

Congressman Appleby wants every session of Congress opened with the singing of "The Star-Spangled Banner." If his suggestion is acted upon we may some day read: "The vote on the Blank resolution resulted in a strict party vote, the sopranos and contraltos voting solidly for the resolution, the basses, barytones and tenors voting solidly against." But before Congress rises to the dignity of a songfest there must be many sessions of preparation. Perhaps it would be better for the members to try something easier, something they all know.

The Stair-Scraping Habit

Enormous Waste of Shoe Leather Through Needless Attrition

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: As I look at the patent treads of stairways that are gradually being polished to uselessness all over the country, I am led to wonder how many millions of dollars in shoe leather and half soles are being needlessly expended in doing that polishing.

It is all thoughtless. Men, women and children thrust their feet with a shoving motion in placing them on a step, instead of planting them without the scuff. Changing the mode of stepping would cure it all.

If one listens to a crowd going up an elevated or subway stairway the "choo-choo-choo" of the soles is most evident. Everybody does it. Nobody thinks. If they thought, they would see those carborundum armored stair treads gradually turning bright under the treatment of sole leather at $2 per average pair. Wearing off a sixteenth of an inch of stair tread on a few square inches of surface takes possibly a hundred dollars worth of sole leather, on which three times as much has been expended in hand sewing, etc.

I only point the way. Let the statisticians revel in the millions that could be saved this year and next and the year after if people only would think to put their feet down properly on a stair or on a pavement. Cut out the scuff.

Understand that the subway and the elevated neither need nor want their treads polished. They will be most relieved to know that you are thrifty for the good of your own soles.

GEORGE N. COLE.

New York, June 8, 1921.

Public Golfers Too Rough Shod

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: While on the interesting subject of the public golf links of the city it seems desirable to ask why these courses are subjected to wear and tear that the private courses will not permit.

The Brae Burn Country Club, of West Newton, Mass., and the Siwanoy Country Club, of Mount Vernon, have taken the lead in barring spikes and hobs from the golf course. Since these courses are played on by only a small percentage of the number of those who use our public links, it is correspondingly more important that our public courses be protected. The rubber tread advocated by the private country clubs is proving eminently satisfactory. Why not similar action on our public courses?

J. R. HURLBURT.

New York, June 8, 1921.

Mexican Facts in Dispute

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: Your correspondent H. A. Adams, in writing on the subject of the recognition of the Obregon government, isn't at pains to get his facts straight.

It is not true that the Mexican constitution has been interpreted by the Obregon or any other government of Mexico as "sanctioning confiscation of properties of foreigners in Mexico without compensation."

It is not true that President Wilson "recognized Carranza only after receiving his solemn promise that it [the constitution] would not be applied in a confiscatory manner," for the excellent reason that we recognized the Carranza government in 1915, while the present constitution of Mexico was adopted in 1917.

ROBERT H. MURRAY.

New York, June 4, 1921.